(vii) Concessional custom duty for R&M programme of power stations.

Announcement of National Electricity Policy

877. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) by when Government of India are going to announce the National Electricity Policy;

(b) whether it is a fact that the policy provide guidelines for competitive bidding in the power sector and also for captive power plants;

(c) whether Government have finalized the rules for captive power plants in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) The National Electricity Policy has been notified on 12.2.2005.

(b) Detailed guidelines for procurement of electricity by distribution licensees through transparent bidding process, as stipulated in section 63 of the Act, have been separately issued by the Central Government.

(c) and (d) Under the Electricity Act, 2003, captive power plants, including group captive, have been freely permitted. The Act provides that any person may construct, maintain or operate a captive generating plant and dedicated transmission lines. Further, under the provisions of the Act, every person, who has constructed a captive generating plant and maintains and operates such plant, shall have the right to open access for the purposes of carrying electricity from his captive generating plant to the destination of his use subject to the availability of transmission capacity.

Embargo on Indian garment exporters

878. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Government has imposed an embargo on certain Indian garment exporters for forging documents in regard to export of goods in excess of their allotted quantities under textile quotas;